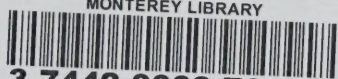


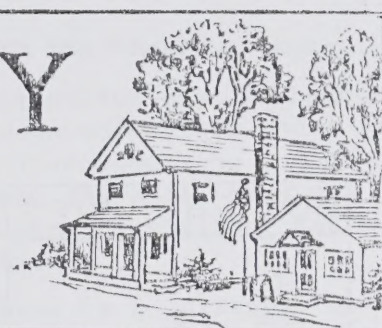
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MONTEREY NEWS



January, 1978

OUR TOWN



Boat Ramp on Lake Garfield -- a Little Background

Tired of winter? Turn your thoughts to halcyon days under the summer sun on the welcoming if diminutive stretch of sand at the Monterey Town Beach. Or will it be asphalt this season? For the last seven years a plan on the part of the state has been in the works to construct a boat ramp on the site of the present town beach. Bureaucratic red tape has providentially postponed the reality of the project until this year, when it may, in fact, really happen

How can this be? It all began in 1620, when a law was written which allowed hunters and fishermen to cross private lands to gain access to any body of water qualifying as a Great Pond (that being any body of water of 10 acres or more). Nowadays access is gained to such a great pond as Lake Garfield by a state-constructed ramp, by means of which fishermen may launch their boats. According to the state, Garfield is long overdue for such a ramp.

On February 13, 1971, anxious to co-operate with the state, which by then had spent considerable time and money on Monterey's much desired new dam, the Town voted at its Annual Meeting "to authorize the Selectmen and/or other Town Board in charge of the land of the Town of Monterey to permit the Public Access Board of the Massachusetts Department of Natural Resources to construct (on Town land) a boat ramp and related parking facilities which will provide public access to the waters of Lake Garfield at the site of the present Town Beach."

The plan at that time was to re-locate the Town Beach to a secluded site on Brewer Pond. The re-location was in effect for a couple of summers, but the new site proved to be unpopular with swimmers and beach-sitters. The Town Beach was moved back to its former location on Lake Garfield.

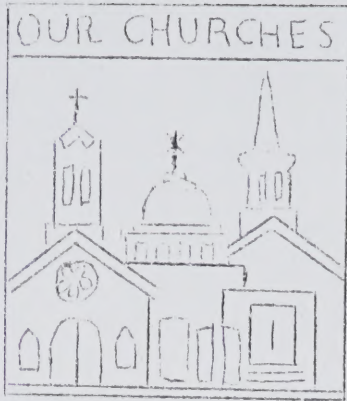
Meanwhile, as Pratt's house decayed, was periodically vandalized and was used for fire drills by the Monterey Fire Department, progress on the access ramp was held up for several years by a dispute between officials in Boston and officials in Monterey over where to hold a meeting to finalize plans for the project. Boston said Bostob. Monterey said Monterey. Finally, after applying a rather subtle, though singularly ineffectual, pressure on the Town by reducing Garfield's allotment of stock fish for a few seasons, state officials agreed to meet with a bevy of Monterey Board and Commission members at the proposed site in the spring of 1977.

The meeting was held, and that brings us up to Now. The Board of Selectmen doubts that Monterey townspeople want a boat ramp on the south side of the outlet tubes where the Town Beach is located. The Board has been corresponding with the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Recreational Vehicles, in the hope that the ramp might be located elsewhere, the best alternative now being the north side of the outlet tubes. There are problems with this plan as well. Available maps are unclear as to what is private and what is public property in that area. There is a stipulation pertaining to minimum distances allowable between a public swimming area and a public access ramp, which so far, despite determined inquiries by the Selectmen, has remained buried in the state code books.

The Selectmen are awaiting a reply from Boston on several matters regarding the proposed ramp. Readers will be wise to make themselves familiar with the details of the situation so that, when action is finally taken, the reasons for it will be comprehensible to all.

Lake Addendum

The Selectmen have recently received an inquiry from Anne Marie Keefe as to procedures for limiting the horsepower of motor boats on Town Lakes. The Board responded by letter, recommending to Ms. Keefe that all interested parties present a proposal for setting new limits on horsepower at the Town Meeting this spring. The present limit on horsepower, previously voted by the Town, is 50 HP.



CATHOLIC CHURCH

Immaculate Conception Church, Mill River -- Mass at 10 a.m. each Sunday.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Morning worship each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. . . .
Notes Kindergarten Class Sundays 10:30 a.m. . . .
Grades 1-4 Wednesdays at 3:15 p.m. . . .
Baptisms: Jordan Nicholas, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Cory Loder; Nathaniel Eaton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hoogs.

Bible Study The second series of six Bible studies is now running. It is meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. The plan being followed is that the subject for the next time arises out of the current study. Studied thus far are "Grace" and "Our Responses to God's Grace." All in the community are invited.

Worship in Social Room During the most severe winter weather morning worship is being held in the social room. This is being done primarily for economic reasons, to avoid the expenses of heating the sanctuary in the most critical weather. Yet many of the congregation have expressed appreciation for the change of style that comes into our worshiping in this fashion. Most appreciated of all is the more informal, intimate, face-to-face relationship that prevails among the worshipers.

Annual Meeting The annual meeting of the congregation is being held on Sunday, January 22, beginning with the morning worship and continuing until completed. There is a covered-dish dinner at noon. There will be the receiving of the reports, passing of the budget, election of officers and any other business that may come before the group.

RESURRECTION

Christ is the good seed sown in human life.

He died, but in two days began to rise,

To pour into mankind his charity,

His never-wilting, ever-growing love,

Curing madness, over-awing dread.

Who can more than intermit its spread?

Christ dies for all and rises in his friends.

Kelly Janes

ORTHODOXY AND OPENNESS

(A shortened version of Dr. Brallier's annual meeting report to the Monterey Church.)

I have noted in recent years the increasing impotence of "The institutional." Whether in government, family or church, this strange incapacity to evoke enthusiasm and power is continuing. Yet exceptions keep appearing. Now and then something conspicuously heartening happens in government circles, but in general the dull, gray decline continues. So with families and churches; there are shining exceptions, but these institutional agents seem unable to check the downward drift.

Now let us turn our focus to the realm of the "spiritual." There is a veritable revolution occurring within this part of our life. Evidence after evidence points to the inward nature of existence. With Einstein's theory of relativity and nuclear physics, the physical sciences began pointing toward energy, rather than matter, at the base of everything. Soon we began recognizing different states of consciousness in persons. Other spiritual dimensions showed themselves. Spiritual healing, meditation, charismatic movements, new approaches to prayer, to name a few. We find ourselves in a groundswell of spiritually based enterprises. Is there any common thread running through it all?

There is a close tie between the decay of the institutional and the grassroots spiritual resurgence. At the time of Jesus' birth the Roman government seemed secure, but it was suffering an inner decay. Also, Judaism was at one of its less imaginative periods. Meanwhile there was a groundswell of grassroots religious activity, most notably the Essene movement. About 450 years later, when the Roman Empire was disintegrating and the barbarian invasions were shattering civilization, there was an amazing resurgence of spiritual vigor in the grassroots of the Church that, contrary to all expectations, spread the faith through Europe like wildfire. These are but two illustrations showing how periods of institutional decay and grassroots revival are intimately linked.

There is no need to document current institutional decay and impotence. It touches all aspects of our society. Are we as well aware of the growing energy and vitality being generated in a multitude of grassroots movements? People are experimenting with ways to lessen dependence on government and traditional family models, yet the most exciting grassroots arena of all is that related to the so-called "spiritual" dimension of life.

Within "the Church" several attitudes are being taken toward this surge of spiritual thrusts. First, we can wrap our orthodoxy all the tighter about us and decry all the half-baked notions of the spiritual life that are being bandied about. Second, we can grudgingly admit that some vital new forms may emerge out of the present welter and wait to find out which ones will stand the test of time so we can put our blessing on them. Or, third, we can celebrate the vitality and vigor of these spiritual outcroppings and actively join in the process of helping the wheat and chaff become distinguished from each other.

Now I should like to relate these observations to the Monterey Church. Every local church is a part of "the Church." Institutional blight touches all who are a part of the larger whole. The decay, the impotence, the blight -- call it what you will -- affects our life. We are a part of "the bundle of life," as Emerson called it; we rejoice in our common joys and we suffer our common tragedies.

I believe the position of each local church toward the spiritual revolution today will profoundly affect its character in the years ahead. Let me state my position: I lean toward the latter position I mentioned, that "we celebrate the vitality and vigor of these spiritual outcroppings and actively join in the process of helping the wheat and chaff become distinguished from each other."

I believe the Church more often is found in the second position, of admitting that vital new forms are emerging, but waiting "to find out which ones will stand the test of time so we can put our blessing on them." This is trying above all to play it safe. It displays a lack of trust that God is working through the whole process of life's unfoldment. It wants to avoid the risk of not always betting on the winners. It is more concerned for orthodoxy than it is for openness.

Orthodoxy is always trying to "wall in the truth," hoping to keep it pure. Alas, every truth walled in begins at that very instant to lose its power. This, I feel, is the key to the impotence that is felt throughout our society. Our institutional life has so many vested interests to protect; it is trying so hard to preserve values won over long years of struggle that its whole energy is being spent on being safe rather than learning "God has yet new Truth to break open from his word."

I believe the Monterey Church is uniquely equipped to help a new age be born. We have a reverence for the heritage of faith. Yes, we do have the character of orthodoxy, yet it is not a "walled in," scared kind. It simply is not willing to throw to the winds hard-won truths. Yet it is open to life, looking for evidences of God's present activity. Both solid and open, it's a great combination. These are qualities the emerging spiritual revolution needs.

It takes two feet to walk, one planted solidly on the ground, the other moving across the ground. This image describes our relationship to this age of spiritual revolution. With a fine blend of orthodoxy and openness let us look to this age with both faith and daring.

Virgil V. Brallier, Minister
Monterey United Church of Christ



Probably, for the Farm, the most important event of 1977 was the building of the third housing unit for guests. McKee house, started in the fall of 1976, was completed, furnished and opened for occupation in the spring of 1977. Since last June it has been in full use and has continued to function satisfactorily for fourteen people, plus house-parents. East House, built in 1958, has a like number and so does the second floor of the old main house. Meals are still served there for everyone. Work projects, too, are carried on jointly. Recreational activities, while usually held at the main building, sometimes

take advantage of the smaller and therefore cozier atmosphere of the living rooms of East House and McKee House.

A venture on which work began several weeks ago, following months of planning, now is in full swing and adds brightness to our new year. We have been given the use of a 60 acre, heavily wooded property, with adequate buildings, located in the Boston area, to serve as a half-way house for guests of Gould Farm. We understand that simple jobs can probably be found for those ready to try them. Educational opportunities abound. Virgil, Lis and Dominic Stucker are in residence. Virgil has been working hard to get the large central building ready for use. Carpenters and painters are at work, too. Farrington House, as it is called, was built early in this century as a convalescent home for children. In recent years it has served also as a rest place for tired mothers and as a conference center. We hope some of these activities can continue. It seems almost miraculous to have this attractive property so generously loaned to Gould Farm.

On January 9, five guests and a staff member left here to take up residence at the new unit. They are able and enthusiastic pioneers. We have great hopes of their success as the first denizens of Farrington House. Sixty years ago, William Gould hoped someday to establish a place of this kind in New York City or Boston. At last the plan is a reality.

New staff members are Bob Gingrich of Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, a volunteer through the Church of the Brethren, and David Richards, a student volunteer from Antioch College.

Rose McKee

MONTEREY GRANGE #291

The Grange met in December for the annual Christmas program for members, families and friends. Due to the very bad weather, the attendance wasn't as large as usual. There was a covered dish supper at 6:30 pm., a variety Christmas program and a visit from Santa.

As this issue of the MONTEREY NEWS goes to press, the Grange will be holding a January 18 meeting with Pirate Bingo under the charge of the Worthy Master.

On January 25 the Monterey Grange will host Berkshire South Pomona Grange.

Mary Wallace
Lecturer

BOY SCOUTS



Wehelos Work towards the swimming badge had to be postponed. The water was too cold. The boys are returning to work on their art badges under the direction of Edith Sluka.

Cubs The Cubs went bowling just before the Christmas holidays. In the next two months the group will be ice skating and cross-country skiing, as well as making cars for the upcoming Pinewood Derby.

Pack 51 will meet on February 3 at 8:00 p.m. in the Town Hall in Mill River. There will be a Pinewood Derby for cars carved and decorated by Dens 1 and 2. Leonard Weber has agreed to take Bob Gauthier's place as Cubmaster for the rest of the year.

GIRL SCOUTS

Brownies The Girl Scouts of Kolburne School invited the Brownies to a Christmas party at the school. They played games and had refreshments.

Brownie leaders Maureen Bradley and Nancy Kolodner attended a craft workshop in Pittsfield, where they learned to make egg carton angels. Subsequently the Monterey Brownies were instructed in the craft.

Four new Brownies were welcomed in a recent investiture ceremony. These girls are: Dani Beckerman, Michelle Barrier, Darlene Barrier and Jennifer Berlet.

The Brownies did the window boxes for the winter season at the Monterey Post Office.

Juniors The Juniors are starting to work on their cooking badge. This will include learning about nutrition, measuring and cleaning up, as well as cooking.

MONTEREY YOUTH GROUP

During the month of January the Youth Group has been dealing with the concepts of handicapped persons, youth suicide and adolescent crushes. The group has planned some activities for itself, which will be recreational in nature. There will be a bowling party the last Saturday in January. Once a month thereafter there will be something similar: skating, museum trips, movies, etc.

4-H

4-H Horse Club

At the December 13 meeting Bernie Armata, from the 4-H City Office, came down and conducted a 4-H Horse Bowl Quiz, complete with light board and buzzers. It was a fun evening.

Kristine Heath
President

NEW MARIBOROUGH-MONTEREY PTA

The PTA collected approximately \$320 from the annual toy sale at the Mill River School. The money will go toward scholarships for seniors graduating in the Southern Berkshire Regional School District.

The PTA and Mill River School are co-sponsors for the puppet show and workshop to be held on a Wednesday at the school. A performer affiliated with the Southern Berkshire Arts Council will perform a one-woman show and will direct the workshops.

There is for the third year an energetic skiing group, meeting once a week on Friday afternoons at Catamount Ski Resort from 3:30 until 7:30. There are eight sessions, each one including a one hour lesson and four hours of skiing, for \$4 a session. About a dozen skiers are involved this year, both mothers and school-children.

Cynthia Weber
President

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This month we are once more indebted to a host of generous readers, namely the following: Mrs. Earl Adams, Mr. Peter Anderson, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Bearce, Dr. & Mrs. Edward Brown, Mrs. David Burns, Mr. & Mrs. John Camp, Leona Chamberlin, Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Cohen, Mr. Arthur Colodny, Mr. & Mrs. Eric Craven, Mr. Robert Ensign, Marjorie Fuller, Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Garber, Mrs. M. J. Gilligan, Mr. & Mrs. William Ginsburg, Mr. Edward Green, Mr. & Mrs. Roy Hepp, Mr. & Mrs. Harris Hinchcliff, Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Klepps, Mr. & Mrs. John Lambert, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Richard Lankenau, Mr. & Mrs. George McVey, Mr. & Mrs. Georges May, Mr. & Mrs. Rick Mielke, Archdeacon Arthur Monk, Mr. Charles New, Mr. & Mrs. Eugene O'Connell, Mr. & Mrs. Denis O'Connor, Judith Oplinger, Margaret Ormandy, Mr. & Mrs. William Pasco, Mr. Burton Paustian, Mr. James Pearson, Lawrence Heald & Deborah Rankin, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Rosebrock, Dr. & Mrs. Howard Rosen, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schlichter, Mrs. Richard Seitz, Rev. & Mrs. Royal Shepard, Mrs. Arthur Smith, Mr. & Mrs. William Stevens, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Sturtz and Mrs. Sonny Winter, Mrs. Folger Thomas, Miss Nina Tryon, Eleanor Varney, Mr. & Mrs. Sydney Weinstein, Mr. Fred Whipple, Mary Wocel.

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